GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3126
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
RESEARCH ON STEM CELL
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring a comprehensive policy for promotion of Stem Cell Research;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the names of places where centres have been set up or are proposed to be set up for Stem Cell Research;

(d) the names of the diseases which are being treated successfully through Stem Cell Research as of now and the names of diseases that the likely to be treated through Stem Cell Research in future;

(e) whether All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), the Post Graduate Institute (PGI), Chandigarh and the Vellore Medical College (VMC) are working on the experimental research on Stem Cell; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)to(d): Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in consultation with other agencies had developed the guidelines for Stem Cell Research and Regulation which has been recently revised by ICMR and Department of Biotechnology jointly as Draft Guidelines for Stem Cell Research and Therapy, 2006. According to the guidelines, stem cell research should be promoted in the country in the view of its potential for clinical use, ensuring at the same tune proper regulatory climate for such research and the according to ICMR, the following centers are doing work related to Stem Cell Research:

(i) Institute of Immunohaematology, Mumbai

(ii) AIIMS, New Delhi.

(iii) L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad.

(iv) The National Brain Research Centre, Gurgaon.

(v) The National Center for Cell Sciences, Pune

(vi) Reliance Life Sciences.

(vii) Manipal ACU NOVA.
Department of Bio-Technology proposes to set up Stem Cell Research Centers at the following places:

(i) CMC Veilore.

(ii) PGI Chandigarh.

(iii) KEM, Mumbai

(iv) SGPGI, Lucknow.

(e)&(f): All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), the Premiere Health care centre of the country is involved in clinical studies on stem cell therapies in different clinical conditions particularly Cardiovascular diseases.In addition, Department of Biotechnology has envisaged plans for creating infrastructure in the stem cell research arena. The department has mooted plans to create a stem cell center at CMC Veilore and PGI, Chandigarh, KEM Mumbai and SGPGI, Lucknow.